

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY
PCT
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference O:159389 LS/kmg	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Form PCT/IPEA/416	
International application No. PCT/NO2004/000327	International filing date (day/month/year) 27.10.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 28.10.2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC B63B 35/42		
Applicant Delta Lifter Technologies AS et al		

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36. 2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>3</u> sheets, including this cover sheet. 3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau</i>) a total of <u>3</u> sheets, as follows: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions). <input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box. b. <input type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the International Bureau only</i>) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in electronic form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. This report contains indications relating to the following items: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 26.08.2005	Date of completion of this report 03.11.2005
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/SE Patent- och registreringsverket Box 5055 S-102 42 STOCKHOLM Facsimile No. +46 8 667 72 88	Authorized officer Carl Fröderberg / JA A Telephone No. +46 8 782 25 00

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/NO2004/000327

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on:



the international application in the language in which it was filed



a translation of the international application into _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:



international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b))



publication of the international application (Rule 12.4(a))



international preliminary examination (Rules 55.2(a) and/or 55.3(a))

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report):



the international application as originally filed/furnished



the description:

pages 1 - 7 as originally filed/furnished

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____



the claims:

pages _____ as originally filed/furnished

pages* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19

pages* 1 - 3 received by this Authority on 2005-08-26

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____



the drawings:

pages 1 - 5 as originally filed/furnished

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____



a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

the description, pages _____



the claims, Nos. _____



the drawings, sheets/figs _____



the sequence listing (specify): _____



any table(s) related to the sequence listing (specify): _____

4. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

the description, pages _____



the claims, Nos. _____



the drawings, sheets/figs _____



the sequence listing (specify): _____



any table(s) related to the sequence listing (specify): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/NO2004/000327

Box No. V **Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	<u>1-10</u>	YES
	Claims	_____	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	<u>1-10</u>	YES
	Claims	_____	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	<u>1-10</u>	YES
	Claims	_____	NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

Documents cited in the International Search Report:

D1: US 3859804
 D2: US 6540441
 D3: US 3347052
 D4: US 5111764

The invention relates to a method and a vessel for removing an offshore jacket structure. The invention according to claim 5 has been restricted by the amended fifth claim filed with the letter of 2005-08-26. Particularly by adding to claim 5 that the seagoing vessel (1) is constructed for removing, installing and transporting an offshore jacket structure. This, in combination with the two protruding auxiliary buoyancy sections (3), makes it unobvious to a person skilled in the art to modify the transport and launch apparatus to transport and launch an offshore tower described in D1 in such a way that the claimed invention according to the amended fifth claim is obtained.

The cited documents represent the general state of the art and the invention defined in amended claims 1- 10 is not disclosed by any of these documents.

Accordingly, the invention defined in the amended claims 1- 10 is novel and is considered to involve an inventive step. The invention is industrially applicable.